SECRET GREY COURT IN KOHN DECISION

DA JIM GARRISON

The District Attorney's Office said today it has issued a subpena charging that Dr. J. D. Grey, president of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, secretly contacted a Louisiana Supreme Court justice in connection with the Aaron M. Kohn contempt case.

Dr. Grey, pastor of the First Baptist Church and one-time president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was subpenaed to appear at District Attorney Jim Garrison's office at 11 a.m. Friday.

The Supreme Court yesterday reversed a contempt of court judgment and jail sentence against Kohn, managing director of the crime commission. He had been cited for contempt for refusing to give information to the Orleans Parish Grand Jury in its probe of organized crime.

CONTACTED AT a luncheon meeting, Dr. Grey said: "I know nothing about the subpena; I've heard nothing about it."

He added, "It is a well-known fact that I know some members of the Supreme Court. I am a member of the governor's Commission on Crime."

Asked specifically whether he had contacted any member of the court on the Kohn case, Dr. Grey said he would not comment "but will make a statement at the proper time."

In a statement on the subpena, the DA's office said it was issued "as a result of information received that Rev. Grey as president of the MCC secretly contacted on several occasions a jus-

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM

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MOVES CHARGED

tice of the court while the court was in the process of deliberating the contempt citation.

"INASMUCH as Rev. J. D. Grey in his capacity as president of the MCC necessarily knew that a decision was pending concerning his managing director, this office intends to learn the purpose of his clandestine efforts to contact the Supreme Court and the matters brought up by him during his visits.

"This office intends to learn the purpose of his visits to the office of the Supreme Court and the subject matter

See GREY— Page 6

DR. J. D. GREY

Grey--

Continued from Front Page

brought up by Rev. Grey in any discussion which he may have initiated.

"THIS INQUIRY should not be considered necessarily as a reflection on the Supreme Court because no member sought out Dr. Grey. However, this office expects and will demand an explanation from Dr. Grey."

Kohn was cited for contempt by Criminal District Judge Matthew S. Braniff. He spent the night of Dec. 14 in Parish Prison before the Supreme Court stayed the action pending a hearing.

Garrison and Kohn have been frequently at odds since Garrison became DA in 1962.